IN THE ABSTRACT:

Replace the abstract originally provided on the cover sheet of the PCT application with the new abstract as follows: A new abstract numbered page 27 is enclosed for the last page of the application following the claims.

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Download performance parameters of web pages accessible via a network are evaluated by providing at least one model for predicting a set of download performance parameters for the web pages as a function of a respective set of input parameters. The at least one model includes at least one optimisation parameter. A set of sample web pages is defined and the set of download performance parameters for the sample web pages are both measured and evaluated on the basis of the model for different values of the at least one optimisation parameter. An error indicative of the difference between the download performance parameters for the sample web pages as measured and as evaluated on the basis of the model, respectively, is defined and an optimised model is selected including a value of the least one optimisation parameter minimising the error or reducing it below a predetermined value. Download performance parameters for any selected set of pages accessible through the network can then be evaluated without interfering with operation of the network on the basis of the optimised model.